

C. Claims

The present Amendment has been prepared in accordance with a revised format established by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as set forth in the O.G. Notice 1267 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 106 of February 25, 2003.

Please cancel claims 1-16 without prejudice or disclaimer and add new claims 17-26 to read as follows. In accordance with the revised amendment format, a complete listing of all the claims appears below; this listing replaces all earlier amendments and listings of the claims.

17. (New) An apparatus for washing glass substrates comprising:
holding means for bearing a glass substrate having thereon a transparent electrode,
ultrasonic exposure means for irradiating the glass substrate borne by the holding means with ultraviolet rays,
a cassette adapted to receive plural sheets of the glass substrate irradiated with ultraviolet rays, and
an ultraviolet washing vessel adapted to receive the cassette and dip the plural sheets of the glass substrate within pure water and wash the glass substrate under application of ultrasonic wave.

18. (New) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the ultraviolet rays exhibit wavelength peaks at 184.9 nm and 253.7 nm.

19. (New) A process for producing a liquid crystal device comprising selecting at least one glass substrate having thereon a transparent electrode and washing said substrate using an apparatus according to claim 17.

20. (New) A process for producing a liquid crystal device comprising selecting at least one glass substrate having thereon a transparent electrode and washing said substrate using an apparatus according to claim 18.

21. (New) An apparatus for washing a glass substrate comprising:
conveyer means for feeding a glass substrate having thereon a transparent electrode,

ultraviolet exposure means for irradiating the glass substrate fed by the conveyer means with ultraviolet rays,

spray means for spraying pure water onto the glass substrate irradiated with ultraviolet rays and conveyed from the ultraviolet exposure means to wash the glass substrate, and

high-pressure showering means for showering pure water at an elevated pressure onto the glass substrate washed by the spray means to further wash the glass substrate.

22. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the spraying means sprays the pure water at an elevated temperature.

23. (New) An apparatus according to claim 21, further including air knife means for draining water off the glass substrate following the high-pressure showering means.

24. (New) A process for producing a liquid crystal device comprising selecting at least one glass substrate having thereon a transparent electrode and washing said substrate using an apparatus according to claim 21.

25. (New) A process for producing a liquid crystal device comprising selecting at least one glass substrate having thereon a transparent electrode and washing said substrate using an apparatus according to claim 22.

26. (New) A process for producing a liquid crystal device comprising selecting at least one glass substrate having thereon a transparent electrode and washing said substrate using an apparatus according to claim 23.